



ImagineBloomington Workshop 1: Monroe County Public Library (2/21/2012)

## Group Ideas

### **Bloomington “Today” Ideas:**

- Entertainment, arts, speakers, festivals
- Arts focused
- Diverse, educated, rich culture
- Culturally diverse
- Cultural, beautiful, diverse, unique
- Diverse culture
- Trendsetting community
- Innovative
- Liberal and progressive
- Open to ideas: learning community, progressive, sense of specialness, stimulating, international environment, culture and entertainment and participatory
- Evolving, progressive living, trend-setter
- Vibrant, beautiful, lively, great downtown, great farmer’s market
- Exciting and beautiful
- Interesting
- Good food
- Small town living (that is diverse & educated with lots of rich culture and opportunities)
- Small town with Big Art and music
- Opportunities
- People
- Friendly
- Friendly
- Family friendly
- Good place to raise a family
- Tell a friend – marvelous touring
- Ingrained values
- Core neighborhoods
- Courthouse Square
- Clean community - “Clean Berkeley”

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- Good (random) nature spots
- Tree City
- Almost leading, environmentally aware
- Growth
- Growing – embrace it
- Apathetic and sprawling
- Afraid of growth/small town
- University town
- Integration with university and community
- University’s agenda and relationship
- Planning together (IU-City+Individuals)
- Community – IU, College community/townies
- Indiana University has a monopoly on the community
- Divides: IU agenda and town and gown mentality, east and west, City and County
- Blue dot in the political sea of Red
- Complacent and naïve
- “White bread”
- Image over substance
- Challenges
- Challenged by poverty: drunken, segregate, costly, no plane, train, bus
- Turf wars due to lack of leadership, lack of collaboration
- Ready, willing, able?
- Easy to get around and live
- Good public works
- Prepared
- Unfriendly to business
- Poor job market leads to brain drain
- Not friendly to new investment
- Not affordable

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### **Bloomington “Tomorrow” Ideas:**

- Support alternative transportation – sidewalks, more bike lines and connections, incentives to bike more
- Non-auto transport
- Improve accessibility
- Micro-transport for aging for 1) pick-up and 2) rounds
- Better distinction of travel lanes for color-blind bicyclists
- Provide City services and bus routes to fringe areas
- Improving/changing traffic patterns without impeding on residential areas
- No I-69
- Bike and pedestrian safety
- Bicycle friendly culture
- Improve public transportation – especially to IU
- City supported recreational opportunities
- More age friendly services programs and resources
- Affordable cultural activities for seniors
- Improve parks – dog parks, urban gardens
- Increase greenspace – small parks
- Increase greenspace
- More green space
- Self-sufficient economy
- Industrial development, clean industry and job creation
- Job creation at all levels
- More industry/more manufacturing
- Senior industry
- Investment friendly
- Refocus our economic development strategy: bigger retirement industry, senior community center/intergenerational activities, why are we “ignoring” an opportunity to.....
- Many people want to stay, valuable to the community, but must leave because they can’t make a living: tough place to make a living, more and better job opportunities, wage theft/more affordability
- Have an energy descent plan
- Rely on renewable energy
- More emphasis on renewable energy sources
- Broader civic engagement in sustainability
- Broad view towards sustainability
- More local food production
- Better rain preparedness
- More gardens – house-top/roof-top gardens, community gardens
- Affordable housing, mixed neighborhood
- Increase affordability

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- Fixing the homelessness situation
- More services for people who are less fortunate
- City-run detox center
- More services for the less affluent
- More support for the common good
- Improve community pride
- Changing demographic trends require new ways of thinking
- Inclusive
- I.U's control of the City
- Question population growth
- More body-building opportunities
- Broad views on architecture
- Better artistic buildings and architectural diversity
- Infrastructure – save old buildings, improved storm sewers/ storm management for core neighborhoods and affordable housing
- Preserve core neighborhoods and nature spots
- Preserve uniqueness - reduce Westside sprawl, chain stores
- Crowdedness: more environmentally conscience (especially IU), better connection between students and locals, more awareness of poverty, better bike lanes, more dense spaces/mixed use/many more density points
- Create form-based code for land development – get rid of use-based code
- Village concept/village node
- Improved City/County cooperation
- Greater participation in evaluation gov. services
- State and federal support is lacking/diminishing for Indiana University